GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2115
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Start Ups for Drought
Udasi Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the start-ups mooted by enterprising professionals in agricultural sector have generated new opportunities for the Indian farmers and reinforced their supply chain, if so, the details of the successful projects which have been recorded by the concerned Ministry;

(b) the extent to which these start-ups have been useful in drought-prone regions of the country;

(c) whether these start-ups have shown any encouraging results in the management of livestock of the farmers and also marketing of their dairy products and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has formulated an integrated "Action Plan" for the land-holding landless and marginal farmers and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

???? ??? ????? ?????? ???????? ??? ????? ?????? (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA)

(a) to (c): A Central Sector Scheme, "Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (ACABC)" has been under implementation since April, 2002, to supplement the efforts of public extension, support agricultural development and create gainful self-employment opportunities to unemployed youths with qualification in agriculture and allied sectors.

The scheme promotes involvement of agri-preneurs trained under the ACABC scheme in providing advisory and extension services to the farmers in agriculture and allied areas. The agri-preneurs trained under ACABC scheme are actively involved in providing advisory and extension services to the farmers on various technologies including soil health, cropping practices, plant protection, post harvest technology etc.

During the current year, 1930 candidates have been trained and 561 have established their ventures. Since inception of the scheme, 49745 candidates have been trained and 21010 agri-ventures have been established in the country till 31.10.2016. These ventures are acting as active supplementary institutions for Government Extension mechanism in the States.

Selected agri-preneur during the training period develops a specialized project. An indicative list of agri- ventures under ACABC scheme is given below:

Contdâ€¦2/-

â€¢ Extension of consultancy services;
â€¢ Soil and water quality cum inputs testing laboratories;
â€¢ Crop protection services, including pest surveillance, diagnostic and control services (with culture rooms, autoclaves, microscopes, ELISA Kits etc. for detection of plant pathogens including viruses, fungi, bacteria, nematodes and insect pests);
â€¢ Micro-propagation including plant tissue culture labs and hardening units;
â€¢ Production, maintenance and custom hiring of agricultural implements and machinery including micro irrigation systems;
â€¢ Seed production and processing units;
â€¢ Vermiculture units;
â€¢ Production of bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides & other bio-control agents;
â€¢ Apiaries (bee-keeping) and honey & bee products' processing units;
â€¢ Agricultural insurance services;
â€¢ Agri tourism
â€¢ Agri journalism − film production; farm publications and exhibitions;
â€¢ Poultry and fishery hatcheries;
â€¢ Livestock health cover, veterinary dispensaries & services including frozen semen banks and liquid nitrogen supply and artificial insermination;
â€¢ Information technology kiosks;
â€¢ Feed production, marketing and testing units;

â€¢ Value addition centres;
â€¢ Cool chain including cold storage units.
â€¢ Post harvest management centres for sorting, grading, standardization, storage and packaging;
â€¢ Metallic and non-metallic storage structures;
â€¢ Horticulture clinic, nursery, landscaping, floriculture
â€¢ Sericulture;
â€¢ Vegetable production and marketing;
â€¢ Retail marketing outlets for processed agri-outputs; Contract farming;
â€¢ Crop production and demonstration;
â€¢ Mushroom production;
â€¢ Production, processing and marketing of medicinal and aromatic plants; and
â€¢ Production units like dairy, poultry, piggery, fisheries, sheep rearing, goat rearing, emu rearing, rabbit rearing etc.

As regards Animal Husbandry Sector, the Government has taken various initiatives, in conjunction with the State Governments, which include Rashtriya Gokul Mission with the aim to conserve and develop indigenous bovine breed, National Mission on Bovine Productivity to enhance milk production and productivity, measures to improve livestock health and control of animal diseases etc. These measures have helped in noticeable increase in the production of milk and egg.

(d): Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) scheme has been extended to cover 652 rural Districts of 29 States & 03 Union Territories across the country. This scheme has been revised to include manpower support: roping in the farmers feedback into planning by setting up Farmer Advisory Committees (FACs) at Block/District & State Level and providing farmer to farmer learning and extension support through farmer friend. This includes various activities for educating and creating awareness amongst farmers like trainings, exposure visits, demonstration, study tours to farm schools etc. Since inception, 4.00 crores farmers have been benefited through various farmer oriented activities, which includes small, marginal and medium farmers also.

****